

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00

CIEP-01 CEA-01 /082 W

-----101014Z 122224 /20

R 100812Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6224

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, MY

SUBJECT: UNCTAD: ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES
REQUESTS PRE-PREPARATORY MEETING CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S.

1. SUMMARY. THE ANRPC DESIRES INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. ON NATURAL RUBBER PRIOR TO APRIL/MAY PLENARY OF PREPARATORY MEETING. ANRPC REQUESTS ELABORATION ON NUMBER OF SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED BY U.S. DEL AT GENEVA AND RECOGNIZES THAT POSITIVE RESPONSE TO CONSUMER CONCERNS ESSENTIAL TO ANY AGREEMENT. CONSULTATIONS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EARLY AND FULL CONSIDERATION OF U.S. VIEWS.

2. THE ANRPC SECRETARY GENERAL, ON BEHALF OF ANRPC, HAS CONVEYED TO US THE DESIRE OF ANRPC FOR INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. PRIOR TO THE APRIL/MAY PLENARY OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING ON NATURAL RUBBER, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON "SPECIFIC PROPOSALS" AND "POSSIBLE ELEMENTS" OF AN INTERNATIONAL
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ARRANGEMENT ON NATURAL RUBBER REFERRED TO IN PARA 4 OF CONCLUDING STATEMENT OF UNCTAD PREPARATORY CONSULTATION ON RUBBER (GENEVA 419).

3. SECRETARY GENERAL EXPLAINED THAT ANRPC WILL MEET AT END OF MARCH OR EARLY APRIL TO FINALIZE PAPER TO BE SUBMITTED TO PRODUCER/CONSUMER WORKING GROUP MEETING IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING

APRIL/MAY PLENARY.

4. ANRPC IS OF VIEW THAT EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF MAIN ISSUES WILL INCREASE UTILITY OF PLENARY. ON QUESTION OF PRICE RANGE HE NOTED THAT ONE IMPORTANT PROBLEM IS IDENTIFYING THE PRICE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NATURAL RUBBER AND RELEVANT TYPES OF SYNTHETIC RUBBER (SBR AND POLYISOPRENE RUBBER).

5. SECRETARY GENERAL REFERRED TO POINTS MADE BY U.S. DEL AT GENEVA CONCERNING IMPROVEMENT OF PRODUCTIVITY, MARKET ACCESS, INCREASED R & D AND INCREASED PROCESSING OF NATURAL RUBBER IN PRODUCING COUNTRIES. THE SECRETARY GENERAL ASKED WHETHER USG WISHES TO PURSUE THESE SPECIFIC TOPICS FURTHER IN NEXT PLENARY AND IF SO ANRPC WOULD APPRECIATE AND ELABORATION OF U.S. THINKING ON THESE MATTERS.

6. THE SECRETARY GENERAL ALSO REFERRED TO STATEMENT BY U.S. DEL TO THE EFFECT THAT "WE MUST DEFINE AND BROADEN THE AREA OF MUTUAL BENEFIT." THE SECRETARY GENERAL NOTED THAT BOTH SIDES MUST BE INVOLVED IN DEFINING THIS AREA AND REQUESTED THE COOPERATION OF CONSUMERS IN THIS PROCESS.

7. ON QUESTION OF FINANCING, THE SECRETARY GENERAL SAID THAT THE U.S. POSITION ON A COMMON FUND IS WELL KNOWN BUT NOTED THAT U.S. DEL HAD MENTIONED LOOKING AT OTHER POSSIBLE SOURCES. THE ANRPC WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING MORE OF U.S. THINKING ON THIS MATTER. SECRETARY GENERAL MADE THE PERSONAL OBSERVATION THAT ANRPC IS OPERATING ON TWO-TIER BASIS IN THE SENSE THAT NOTWITHSTANDING PUBLIC STATEMENTS ANRPC RECOGNIZES DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ESTABLISHING COMMON FUND AND THEREFORE IS PREPARED TO SEEK OTHER MEANS OF FINANCE.

8. REGARDING LACK OF POLITICAL SPEECHES IN FIRST PLENARY, SECRETARY GENERAL SAID THAT ANRPC HAD CONDUCTED EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS BEFORE PLENARY BUT ALSO ATTRIBUTED THIS SUCCESS TO AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY ANRPC THAT INTENT OF ANY AGREEMENT WOULD INCLUDE LOOKING OUT AFTER INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRY CONSUMERS. HE SAID INTENT IS NOT TO JACK THE PRICE UP.

9. SECRETARY GENERAL SAID THAT ANRPC HAS BEEN TRYING TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO U.S. AND OTHER CONSUMER CONCERNS AND INTERESTS. A FURTHER EARLY READING FROM U.S. IS DESIRABLE THEREFORE TO PERMIT PRODUCERS TO CONSIDER AND ATTEMPT WORK OUT SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO CONSUMERS.

10. THE SECRETARY GENERAL REFERRED TO U.S. DEL STATEMENT THAT U.S. CONSIDERATION APPLIED ONLY TO NATURAL RUBBER AND NOT TO OTHER COMMODITIES. THE SECRETARY GENERAL SAID THAT THIS,

OF COURSE, SUITS THE ANRPC VERY WELL SINCE IT SEEKS EARLY AGREEMENT ON NATURAL RUBBER. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT, OF COURSE, THE ANRPC IS UNABLE TO SAY THIS PUBLICLY.

11. COMMENT: FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, AND CONSIDERING U.S. POSTURE IN NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE FOR US TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE ANRPC REQUEST FOR PRE-PLenary CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. FURTHERMORE, CONSULTATIONS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EARLY CONSIDERATION BY PRODUCERS OF U.S. VIEWS ON SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED BY U.S. DEL IN JANUARY PREPARATORY MEETING. PLEASE ADVISE.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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To: STATE
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